

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 TRSE-00 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

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DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/OFJ-J.A. PLACKE:ML

APPROVED BY EB - JULIUS L. KATZ

EUR/RPE - ECASEY

EB/OT/STA - WCLARK

USDA/FAS - JRIESZ

TREASURY-PSUCHMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: IRELAND'S POSITION IN US MEAT MARKET

REF: (A) USEC 11296, (B) USEC 11314

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1. IN LIGHT OF REF A, MISSION SHOULD INFORM EC DIRGEN AGRICULTURE RABOT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THAT USG SEES NO POSITION FOR IRELAND AS A MEAT SUPPLIER TO THE US UNDER EXPECTED MARKET CONDITIONS. CONSEQUENTLY, WE DO NOT INTEND TO OFFER IRELAND AN AGREEMENT UNDER THE 1976 MEAT IMPORT RESTRAINT PROGRAM AND HAVE SO INFORMED IRISH EMBASSY HERE.

2. WITH PRESENT EXPORT SUBSIDY OF 85 U.A./100 KGS (28 CENTS PER POUND), IRISH BEEF IS ONLY marginally COMPETITIVE IN US MARKET, AND US IS ONLY marginally PREFERABLE TO EC MARKET FOR IRISH PRODUCERS. WITH SUBSIDY AT 81.5 U.A./100 (REF B), WE WOULD EXPECT VIRTUALLY NO SHIPMENTS. IN FACT, LOWERING OF SUBSIDY MAY REFLECT IRISH AND EC ASSURANCES GIVEN IN WASHINGTON THAT NO MORE IRISH BEEF WOULD BE SHIPPED TO THE US IN 1975 AS A RESULT OF SUBSIDIES. THIS ASSURANCE WAS GIVEN IN LIGHT OF COMPLAINT FILED UNDER SECTION 303 OF TARIFF ACT OF 1930, AS AMENDED, REQUESTING INSTITUTION OF COUNTERVAILING DUTY. IN CONVINCING COMPLAINANTS TO WITHDRAW CURRENT PETITION FOR COUNTERVAILING DUTY ACTION,

TREASURY HAS ASSURED THEM THAT FUTURE SHIPMENT OF SUBSIDIZED MEAT TO US WILL RESULT IN RAPID COUNTERVAILING ACTION.

3. WITHOUT SUBSIDY, IRISH BEEF CANNOT NOW, OR FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE, COMPETE IN U.S. MARKET. HENCE, IN ARRIVING AT ESTIMATE OF POTENTIAL MEAT IMPORTS FOR 1976, UPON WHICH MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM IS BASED, WE ESTIMATE NO RPT NO IMPORTS FROM IRELAND AND, THEREFORE, DO NOT INTEND TO NEGOTIATE A VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT LEVEL WITH IRELAND FOR 1976. KISSINGER

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